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April 10, 2006

Wisconsin Conservation Congress
Sheboygan County
Sheboygan Falls High School
220 Amherst Ave.
Sheboygan Falls

The Problem:

Muzzleloader deer hunting seasons have become an important tool for the Department of Natural Resources to help control the Whitetail deer heard. The DNR has authorized several seasons, which gives the black powder hunters a great opportunity to use this weapon to harvest deer and help the Department manage the overpopulated heard. The heard keeps increasing as the DNR seeks new ways to help reduce it.

At present, State law does not permit the use of telescopic sights (1 power or less are legal) during the 10-day late muzzleloader season.

Whereas, The State of Wisconsin has too many deer, and needs to harvest more to help control the over population. Wisconsin farmers are suffering significant crop damage due to their incursions.

Whereas, The use of telescopic sights assist a hunter in identifying his target and aids in his or her ability to achieve a clean and humane kill. There is no biological reason not to allow the use of telescopic sights on a muzzleloading rifle.

Whereas, Wisconsin bow hunters are not required to alter their equipment at anytime of the season to legally harvest a deer, therefore,

Be It Resolved: The Conservation Congress at it's annual meeting held in Sheboygan County on April 10,2006, recommends that the Department of Natural Resources take action to correct this situation by introducing a rule change that allows the use of all telescopic sights on any Muzzleloader rifle during any gun deer hunting season.

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52 yes

28 no